GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6258
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
Access to Justice Project
Charitra Shri Ram

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the access to justice project is being implemented in many parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the objectives of the project are to address the legal needs of the marginalized and vulnerable sections of society, particularly women, children and scheduled castes and tribal communities and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it also aims at improving the justice delivery systems to serve the people better; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE & ELECTRONICS
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) The Government is implementing two projects on Access to Justice, one in partnership with UNDP being implemented in 8 States namely, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha. The other project is being implemented in 9 States of North East and Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) The focus of the two projects is on empowering the poor and marginalized to be aware of their rights and demand legal services, while at the same time supporting national and local justice delivery institutions to bring justice to the poor as mentioned in Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The details of the projectsinclude setting up of legal aid clinics in law schools, action research on access to justice issues, training and capacity building programmes of paralegal volunteers, lawyers, grassroots level workers, technology for increasing access to justice like providing voice based legal information kiosks etc.

(c)&(d)Under the Government of India and UNDP Project on Access to Justice for marginalized, a team of five experts has been providing technical support to the National Mission on Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms since 2012. The technical team focuses on research and providing technical inputs for the work undertaken by the National Mission on Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms. The team provides technical assistance on areas such as identifying areas which are prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedures, alternative dispute resolution mechanism and steps to be taken to reduce pendency in courtsetc